



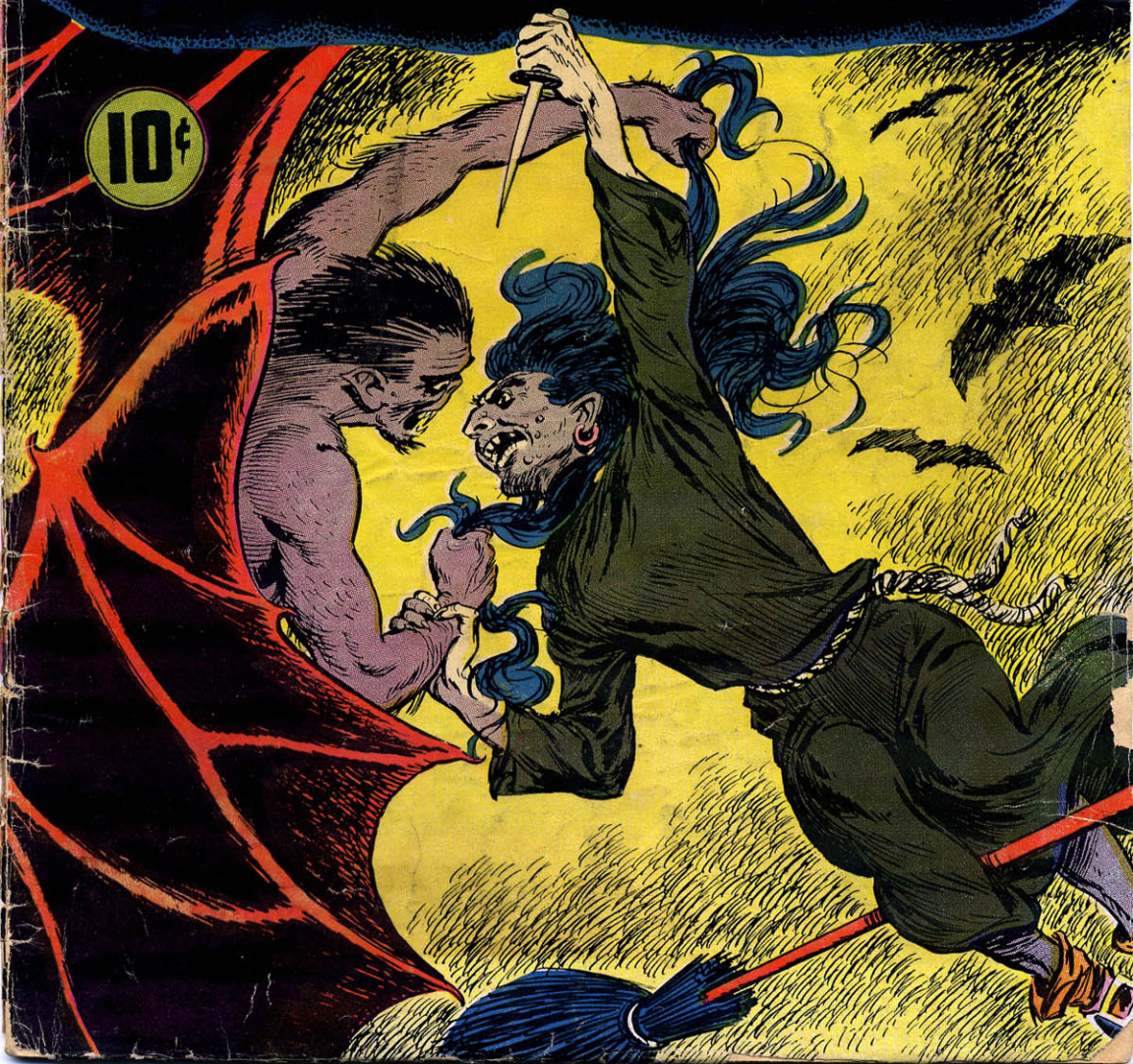
DARING *the* SUPERNATURAL



No 4
AUG.-SEPT.

OUT OF *the* NIGHT

10¢





WEB COMIC
UNIVERSE.COM

THROW UP YOUR HANDS!

and CHEER for a
ONCE - IN - A -
LIFETIME
COMICS MAGAZINE!

THE HOODED HORSEMAN

---A SLAMBANG, THRILL-A-
MINUTE WESTERN COMIC
THAT TOPS THEM ALL!



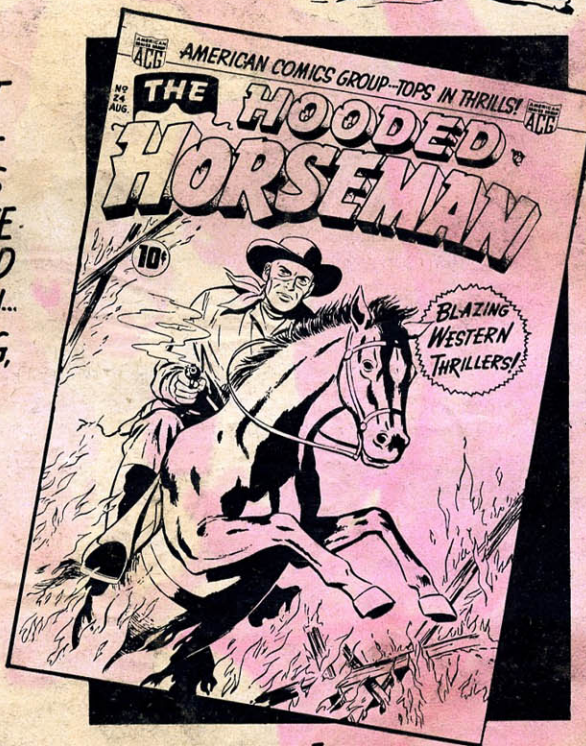
You'll GASP AT
FAST-SHOOTING, RED-
BLOODED GUNFIGHTERS
THAT PACK A POWERHOUSE
PUNCH...CHILL TO PAINTED
INJUNS ON THE WARPATH...
THRILL TO HARD-FIGHTING,
FAST-RIDING COWBOY
HEROES!

★★★

You've NEVER read a
western like this...
it's an action-packed
killer-diller! So...

don't miss

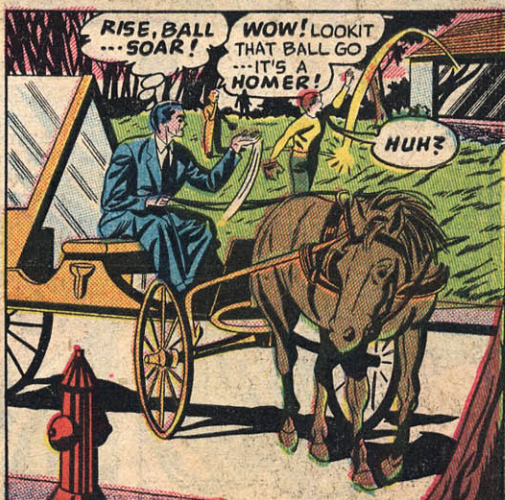
THE HOODED HORSEMAN!



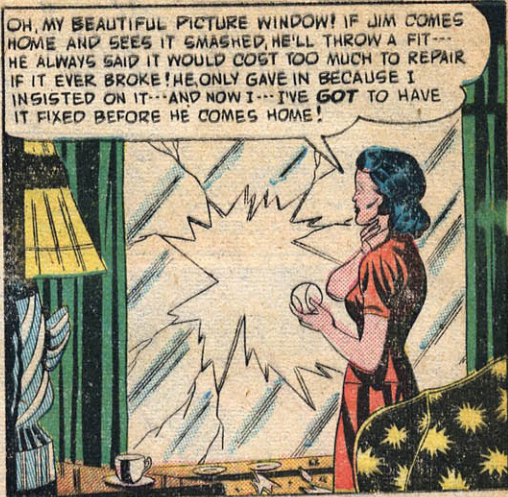
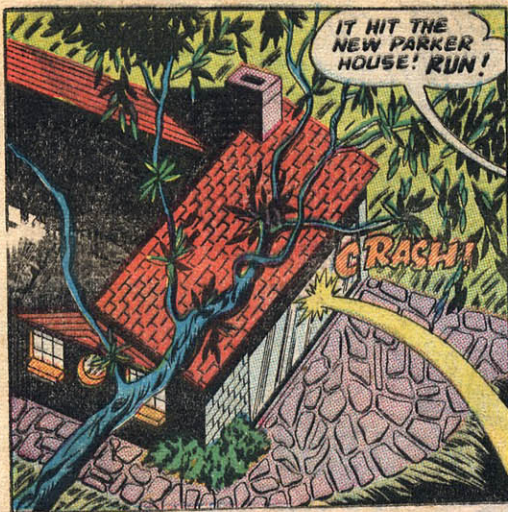
10¢ ON ALL
STANDS

The WEIRD WINDOW

HOW WOULD YOU FEEL IF YOU LOOKED OUT YOUR WINDOW, READER...AND FOUND THAT A FANTASTIC, UNEARTHLY WORLD OF THE DEAD HAD REPLACED THE FAMILIAR SCENERY OUTSIDE? WOULD YOU BELIEVE YOUR OWN EYES WHEN EVIL GHOSTS CLIMBED THROUGH THAT WEIRD WINDOW? WELL, HERE'S A HAIR-RAISING TALE OF HOW THE PARKER FAMILY REACTED TO JUST SUCH A HORRIBLE PREDICAMENT!



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FIVE MINUTES LATER...



YOUR
MOVE,
SON!

HOLY COW!
LOOK, POP!
COMING OUT
OF THE DRAPES
--- IT'S A---
G-GHOST!



NOW, TOMMY, I DON'T
LIKE JOKES LIKE
THAT! YOU **KNOW**
THERE ARE NO
SUCH THINGS AS
GHOSTS!

BUT I---I'M
LOOKING AT ONE
RIGHT NOW!
THERE HE GOES
---WALKING **RIGHT**
THROUGH THE
WALL!



YOU TURNED AROUND TOO
LATE---IT'S GONE! BUT I
DID SEE IT---IT CAME
FROM BEHIND
THOSE
DRAPES!

NONSENSE!
HERE, I'LL
DRAW THE
DRAPES AND
SHOW YOU
THERE'S NOTHING
UNUSUAL
BEHIND THEM!

N---NO,
JIM---
DON'T!



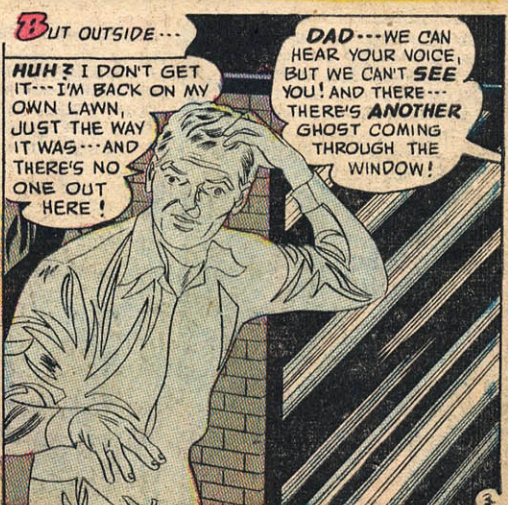
WHY NOT? **HOLY**
SMOKE! WHAT...
WHAT HAPPENED
TO OUR LAWN?

IT'S **GONE!** THERE'S A
WHOLE NEW WORLD IN ITS
PLACE---A **WEIRD**
WORLD!



IT---IT MUST BE THAT NEW
WINDOW---ER, I MEAN, WHO
ARE THOSE EVIL-LOOKING
MEN OUTSIDE?

I DON'T KNOW---BUT
I'M GOING OUTSIDE
AND TELL THEM TO
GET OFF MY
PROPERTY!

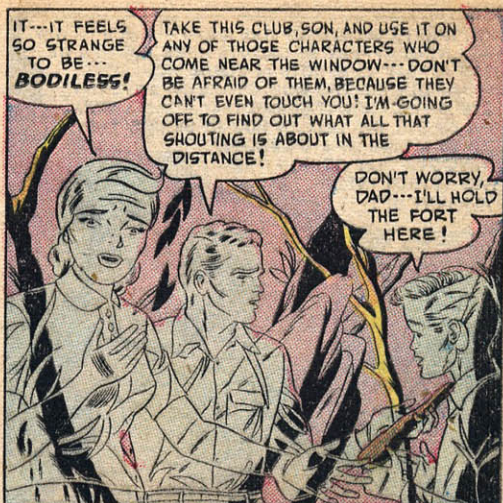


BUT OUTSIDE---

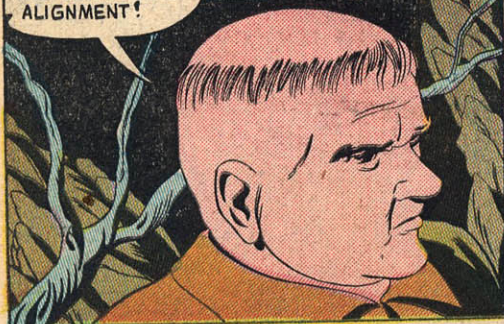
HUH? I DON'T GET
IT---I'M BACK ON MY
OWN LAWN,
JUST THE WAY
IT WAS---AND
THERE'S NO
ONE OUT
HERE!

DAD---WE CAN
HEAR YOUR VOICE,
BUT WE CAN'T **SEE**
YOU! AND THERE---
THERE'S **ANOTHER**
GHOST COMING
THROUGH THE
WINDOW!





AYE, THIS IS WORLD OF THE DEAD---WHICH IS WHY THE LIVING APPEAR AS GHOSTS HERE, JUST AS WE DEAD APPEAR AS SPIRITS IN **YOUR** WORLD! ORDINARILY, THE TWO WORLDS ARE ON DIFFERENT LEVELS---BUT NOW IT SEEMS THAT SOME LIVING MAN OF EVIL HAS LEARNED HOW TO BRIDGE THE GAP BY MEANS OF A **DEVILISH WINDOW** THAT BRINGS THE TWO LEVELS INTO ALIGNMENT!



HE HAS BEGUN RECRUITING ALL THE FIENDISH DEAD, GIVING THEM THE LOCATION OF EACH WINDOW HE SET UP---SO THAT THEY COULD ENTER THE WORLD OF THE LIVING! WHEN HE HAS ENOUGH EVIL HELPERS, HE PLANS TO **CONQUER THE LIVING WORLD!**

GREAT SCOTT--- THAT DEVILISH PLAN MIGHT WORK--- BECAUSE HIS GHOSTS WOULD BE **INVULNERABLE** IN MY WORLD!



AYE, BUT SOME OF US REFUSED TO JOIN SUCH A SATANICAL SCHEME---AND WE DECIDED TO **FIGHT** IT! BUT THE EVIL DEAD ARE WELL ORGANIZED! THEY FORM A REAR GUARD TO KEEP US AWAY FROM THE WINDOWS, WHILE THEY SLIP THROUGH ONE BY ONE TO **JOIN THEIR MASTER IN THE WORLD OF THE LIVING!**



LET ME HELP GET **YOUR** FIGHTERS THROUGH TO MY WORLD! I'LL LEAD A CHARGE RIGHT THROUGH THE RANKS OF YOUR ENEMIES---AND IF YOU STICK CLOSE ENOUGH BEHIND ME, **YOU'LL MAKE IT TO THE WINDOW!**



GIVE WAY TILL THE GHOST PASSES--- THEN CLOSE IN ON HIS FOLLOWERS!

AFTER A MAD RUSH---

HI, DAD---LOOK--- I LOWERED THE BOOM ON A COUPLE OF GOONS!

ONLY WE TWO GOT THROUGH, FRIEND--- ALL THE OTHERS FELL!

YES, BUT WE'LL STRIKE BACK ONCE WE GET THROUGH THAT WINDOW! COME ON, BROTHER JACKSON!



MINUTES LATER---

LOOK---WE BECAME SOLID AGAIN--- BUT HE BECAME GHOSTLY!

WAIT---I CAN HEAR THE SUMMONS CALLING ALL THE EVIL DEAD TO A MEETING WITH THEIR MASTER WHO BROUGHT THEM TO THE WORLD OF THE LIVING!

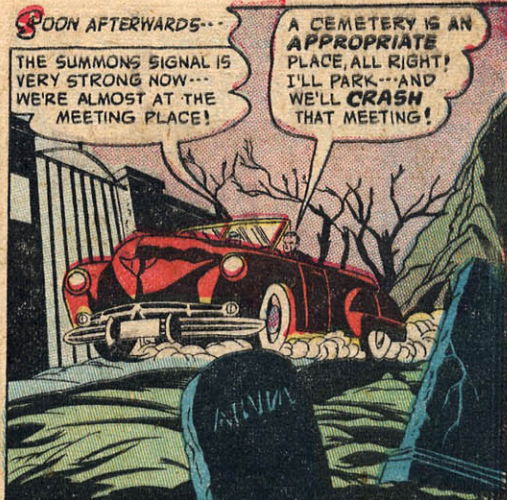
WE'LL OBEY THAT SUMMONS!





NOW LISTEN, TOMMY --- STAND CLOSE TO THE WINDOW WITH THIS CLUB! IF ANY OF THOSE GOONS TRY CLIMBING THROUGH WHILE I'M GONE, THEY'LL BE TEMPORARILY WEAKENED IN THE MOMENT OF PASSING FROM ONE WORLD TO THE OTHER! THEN --- LET 'EM HAVE IT!

YOU CAN COUNT ON ME, DAD!



SOON AFTERWARDS---

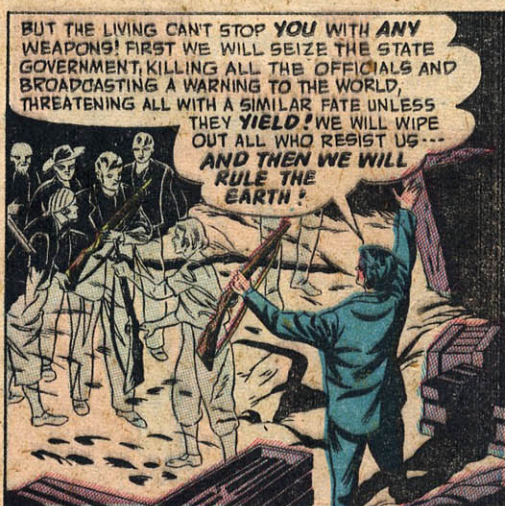
THE SUMMONS SIGNAL IS VERY STRONG NOW--- WE'RE ALMOST AT THE MEETING PLACE!

A CEMETERY IS AN APPROPRIATE PLACE, ALL RIGHT! I'LL PARK---AND WE'LL CRASH THAT MEETING!



SHH---THERE THEY ARE! THAT MUST BE THEIR MASTER SPEAKING!

HEAR ME, MY LEGION OF THE EVIL DEAD! THERE ARE ENOUGH OF YOU HERE NOW FOR US TO STRIKE! AT MY FEET ARE CRATES OF RIFLES AND GUNS! SOON YOU SHALL BE TURNING THEM ON LIVING HUMANS!



BUT THE LIVING CAN'T STOP YOU WITH ANY WEAPONS! FIRST WE WILL SEIZE THE STATE GOVERNMENT, KILLING ALL THE OFFICIALS AND BROADCASTING A WARNING TO THE WORLD, THREATENING ALL WITH A SIMILAR FATE UNLESS THEY YIELD! WE WILL WIPE OUT ALL WHO RESIST US--- AND THEN WE WILL RULE THE EARTH!



YOU ARE ALL INDESTRUCTIBLE AS LONG AS I LIVE ---SO A FEW OF YOU MUST GUARD ME AT ALL TIMES! IF I PERISH, THE WINDOWS I HAVE CONSTRUCTED WILL ALL VANISH---AND YOU'LL ALL DISSOLVE INTO NOTHINGNESS AT THE MOMENT OF MY DEATH! THAT IS WHY I AM SURE THAT YOU WILL NEVER TURN AGAINST ME---THAT I WILL BE THE MASTER OVER THE DEAD AND THE LIVING!



WE'VE GOT TO STOP THAT FIEND SOMEHOW---THE FATE OF THE WHOLE WORLD IS AT STAKE!

THERE IS ONLY ONE WAY! I WILL RUSH OUT AND CREATE A DIVERSION, SO THAT THE EVIL DEAD WILL LEAVE THEIR MASTER'S SIDE TO DESTROY ME---AND YOU WILL BE FREE TO DESTROY HIM! FAREWELL, MY FRIEND!



DOWN WITH HIM! DOWN WITH THE FIEND WHO LEADS YOU!

IT'S ONE OF THE GOOD DEAD... SEIZE HIM!



NOW IF I CAN ONLY GET A RIFLE AND ---OOPS!--- I WOULD HAVE TO STEP ON A BRANCH!

A SNOOPER, EH? YOU'LL DIE FOR THIS!

CRACK!



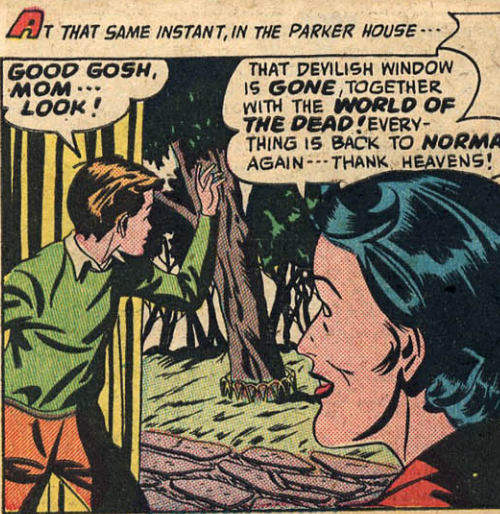
I DON'T DIE SO EASILY, CREEP---AND THIS IS FOR HUMANITY!

YAAGHHH!

BANG!



HE WAS RIGHT WHEN HE SAID ALL THE GHOSTS WOULD DISSOLVE INTO NOTHINGNESS AT THE MOMENT OF HIS DEATH... IT'S JUST WHAT'S HAPPENING!



GOOD GOSH, MOM... LOOK!

THAT DEVILISH WINDOW IS GONE, TOGETHER WITH THE WORLD OF THE DEAD! EVERYTHING IS BACK TO NORMAL AGAIN---THANK HEAVENS!



LATER...

I DISLIKE PICTURE WINDOWS NOW ALMOST AS MUCH AS YOU DO, DARLING! I THINK I'LL HAVE THE ENTIRE WALL BRICKED UP, EXCEPT FOR JUST AN ORDINARY-SIZED WINDOW!

YES--AND I'M GOING TO MAKE SURE THE WINDOW IS PUT IN BY JUST AN ORDINARY GLAZIER!

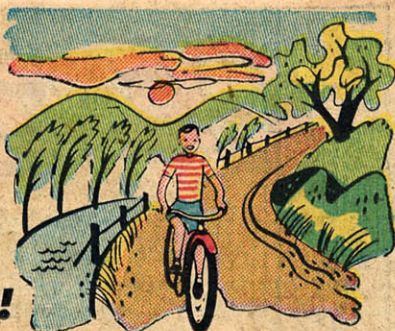
THE END 8.

"CHAIN REACTION"

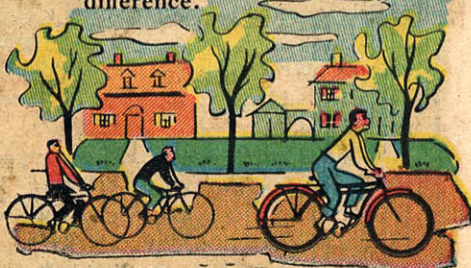
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LE ZOMBIE

HENRY PRITCHETT WAS the kind of American tourist who cast discredit upon America wherever he went. He was smugly superior, always mocking native customs and traditions, and treating the natives themselves with unconcealed contempt. Here in Haiti he was no different.

He was slightly drunk as he staggered into the small bar on the outskirts of Port au Prince on the fourth day of his visit. He liked being drunk, because in that condition he was able to ignore his own mediocrities and feel himself superior to everyone around him.

"Haiti...bah!" he muttered as he pushed aside the few natives at the bar. They looked at him curiously and moved aside to give him room.

"It's a phoney country," Pritchett said pugnaciously to the old, wizened bartender. "I came here to see voodoo ceremonies and zombies...but all I found were tourist traps and performances for suckers who don't know any better. But they didn't fool Henry Pritchett...I'm too smart to be taken in by bush leaguers like you Haitians."

"It is true that most of the ceremonies and performances are not genuine voodoo," the native bartender said softly. "The practice of voodoo is forbidden by the laws of the country...so its true practitioners must perform their rites in secret, behind a false front of respectability."

"Bah...there's no such thing as voodoo," Pritchett roared, banging his fist down hard on the bar. "Now gimme a drink, you shriveled-up monkey, before I take my money somewhere else!"

The bartender surveyed him calmly, and said imperturbably, "Allow me to suggest a drink for you, sir. It is called *le Zombie*...and you will not have been initiated into the mysteries of Haiti if you leave our country without having tasted it. But I

warn you...your system may not be able to withstand its effects."

"Bah...I can outdrink any of you back-water natives. I've had plenty of drinks called Zombies back in the States, and they didn't faze me one bit...so let's have your concoction."

His eyes on the bartender, Pritchett didn't notice that the natives at the bar were slowly edging away from him, as if in awe. When the drink was handed to him, he downed it in one gulp...and said triumphantly, "See that? Didn't faze me...one...bit..."

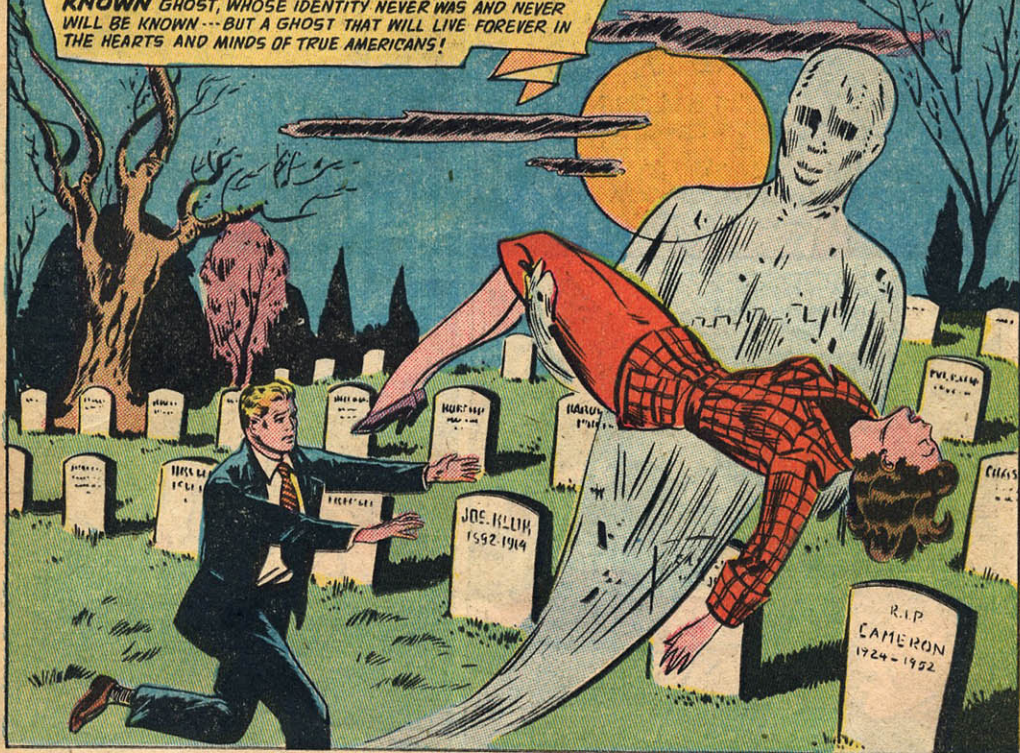
It was pitch dark when Pritchett awoke...he must have been asleep for hours. For a few minutes he lay still, trying to remember what had happened after he drank *le Zombie*...but his mind was a blank. Then, when he tried to move, he found to his amazement that his whole body seemed to be under some strange weight. Frightened, he began struggling in panic, thrashing with his legs and clawing with his hands to free himself from the substance that enclosed him.

Finally, after strenuous efforts, he managed to struggle to his feet. It was still pitch dark. Puzzled, Pritchett pawed at his eyes and found that some of the substance that had covered his body had caked over his closed eyes.

When he finally removed enough of it to open his eyes, he looked around...and gasped, horror-struck. For he was standing in a shallow dirt grave...and his clothes and body were covered with clay. "But if...if I was in that grave, I'd have smothered to death in a few minutes," Pritchett thought, clapping his hand to his heart. And when he felt no beat, he knew the agonizing truth...the *le Zombie* had changed him into a creature of the same name!

The UNKNOWN GHOST

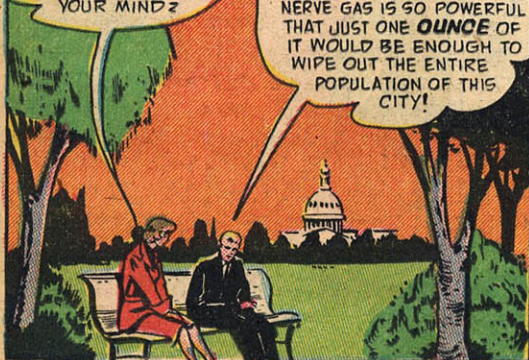
GET SET FOR ONE OF THE STRANGEST SUPERNATURAL STORIES YOU'VE EVER READ, READER! IT'S THE EERIE TALE OF AN UNKNOWN GHOST, WHOSE IDENTITY NEVER WAS AND NEVER WILL BE KNOWN... BUT A GHOST THAT WILL LIVE FOREVER IN THE HEARTS AND MINDS OF TRUE AMERICANS!



BUT I DON'T UNDERSTAND, DARLING---I THOUGHT YOU CAME HERE TO WASHINGTON TO TURN YOUR DISCOVERY OVER TO THE GOVERNMENT! WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND?

THE MORE I THINK ABOUT IT, THE SORRIER I AM I EVER **MADE** THAT DISCOVERY! IF IT WERE EVER USED, I'D BE THE MURDERER OF COUNTLESS MILLIONS OF PEOPLE! WHY, MY NEW NERVE GAS IS SO POWERFUL THAT JUST ONE **OUNCE** OF IT WOULD BE ENOUGH TO WIPE OUT THE ENTIRE POPULATION OF THIS CITY!

IT'S TRUE THAT MY FIRST THOUGHT WAS TO COME HERE AND HAND THE FORMULA FOR THE GAS OVER TO THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT---BUT NOW MY CONSCIENCE IS BEGINNING TO BOTHER ME! I JUST CAN'T GO THROUGH WITH IT--- **I'M GOING TO DESTROY THE FORMULA!**

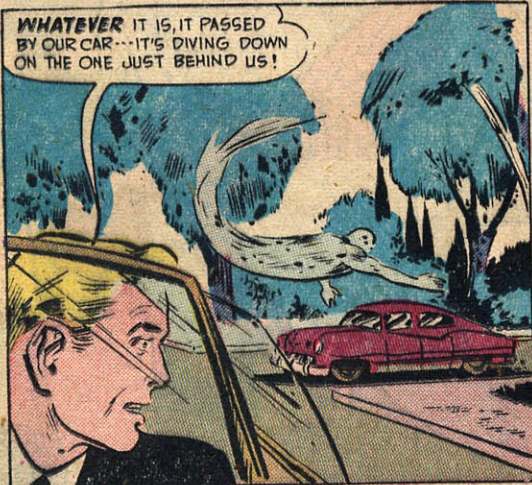


BUT GORDON, IF AMERICA'S ENEMIES DISCOVERED THE GAS, THEY WOULDN'T HESITATE TO USE IT AGAINST **US**... UNLESS THEY KNEW WE COULD RETALIATE AGAINST THEM WITH THE SAME WEAPON! YOUR DISCOVERY **OUGHT** TO BE A WEAPON IN THE ARSENAL OF DEMOCRACY!

IT'LL BE A WEAPON IN **NO ONE'S** ARSENAL, IF I HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT IT! MY MIND'S MADE UP... SO LET'S STOP ARGUING AND HEAD FOR HOME!



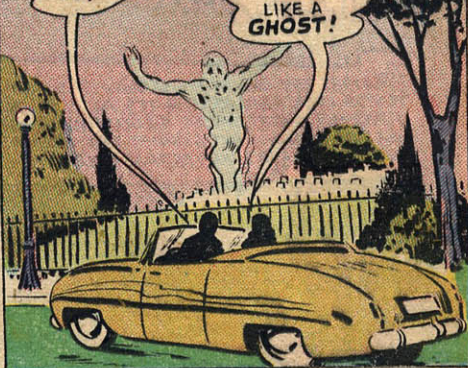
WHATEVER IT IS, IT PASSED BY OUR CAR... IT'S DIVING DOWN ON THE ONE JUST BEHIND US!



NEITHER WAS PREPARED FOR THE EERIE SIGHT WHICH GREETED THEM SHORTLY THEREAFTER...

GREAT SCOTT... WHAT'S THAT... THAT **THING** COMING TOWARD US?

IT'S COMING OUT OF A CEMETERY... AND IT LOOKS LIKE A **GHOST!**



THE AWFUL FACE WROUGHT... **HAVOC!**

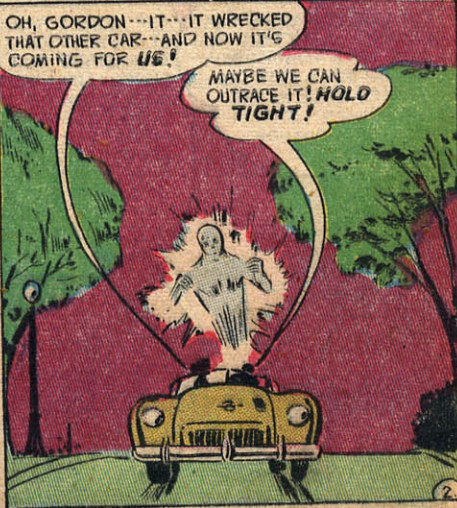
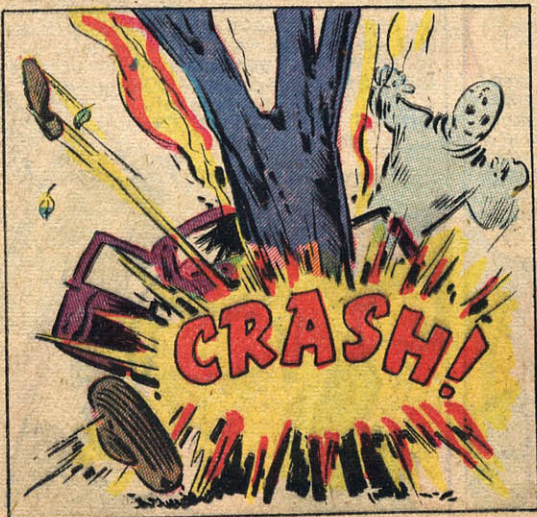
NO NO!

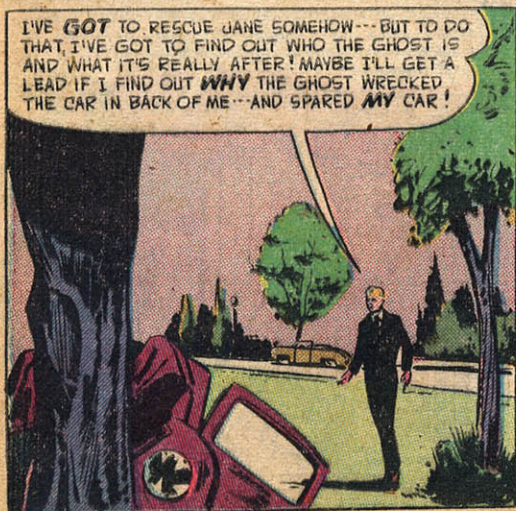
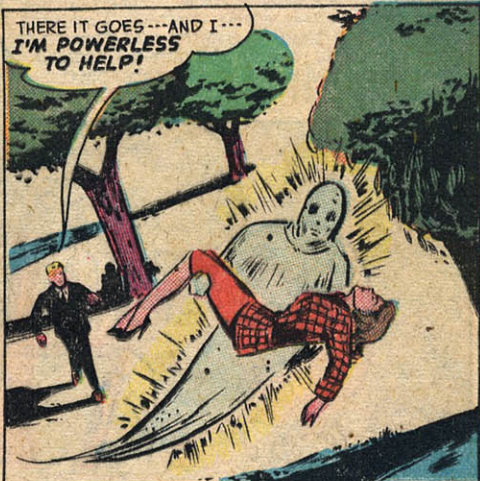
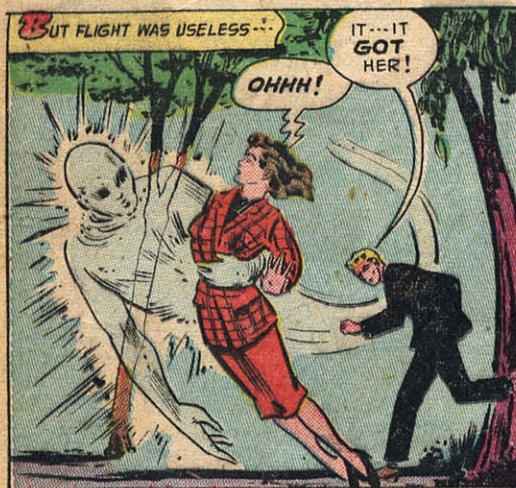
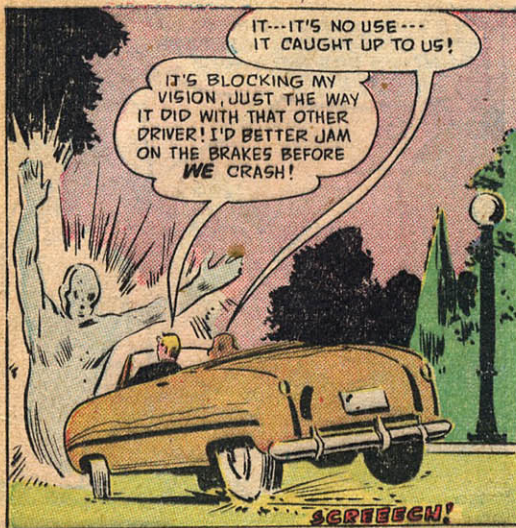
DMITRI... YOU'RE LETTING GO OF THE **WHEEL!**

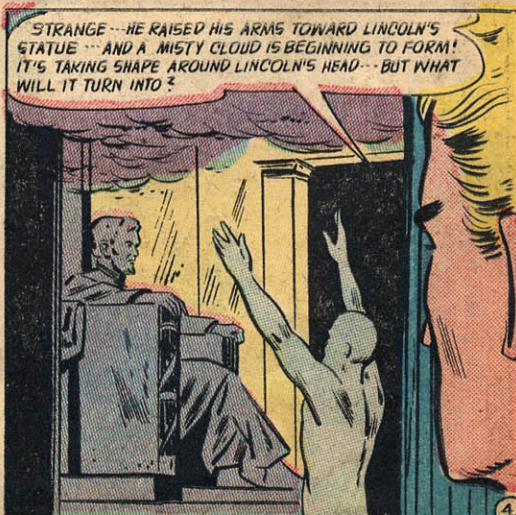
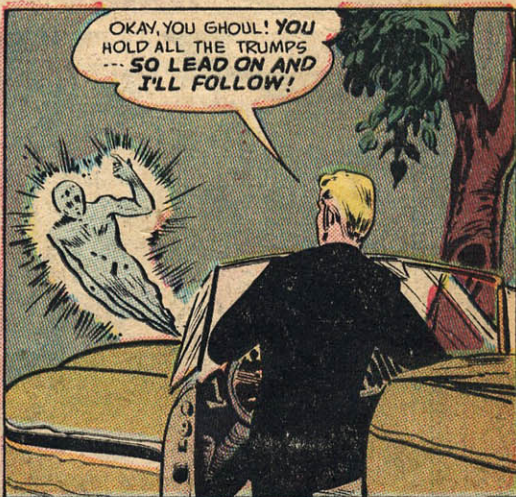
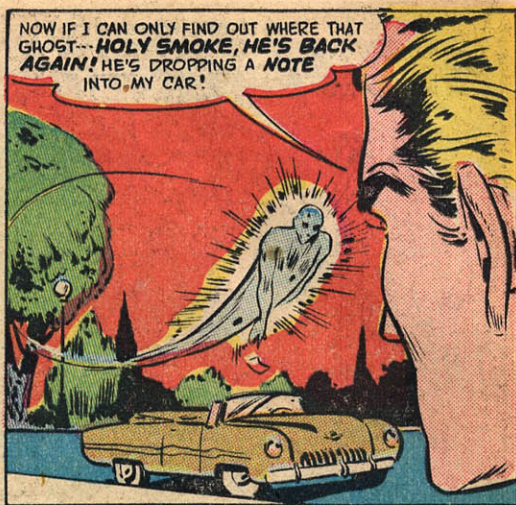
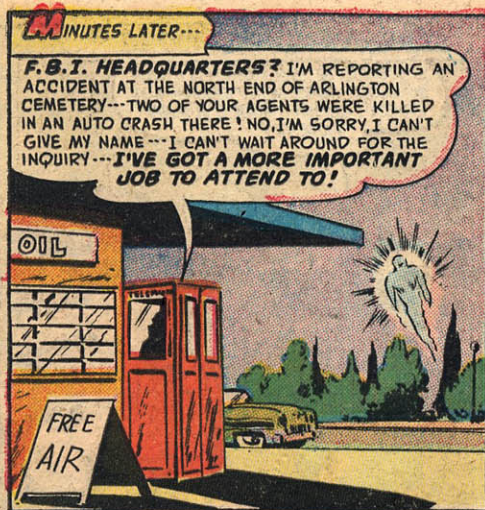


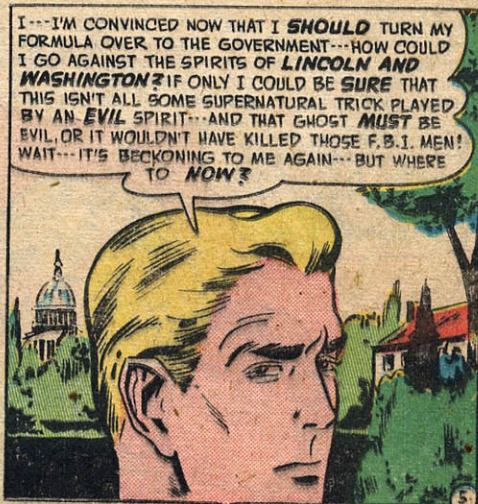
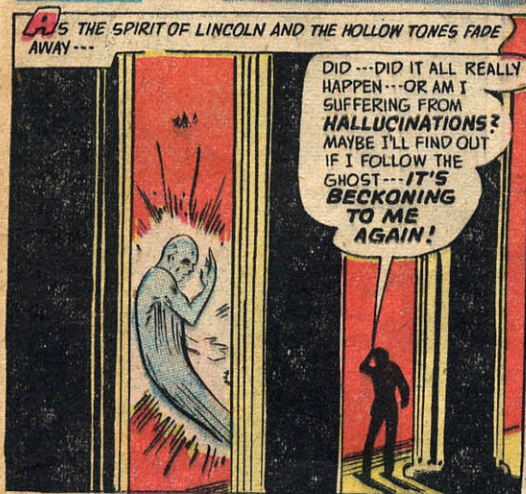
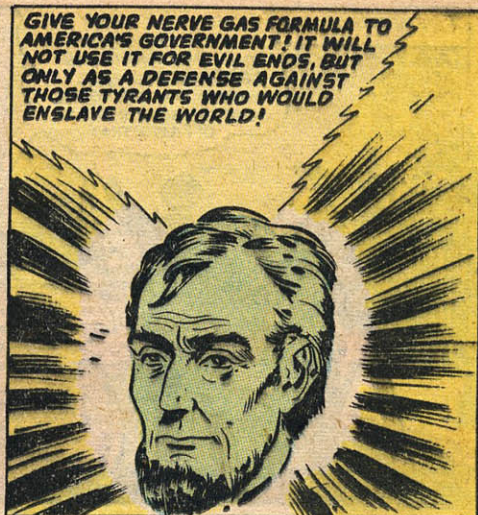
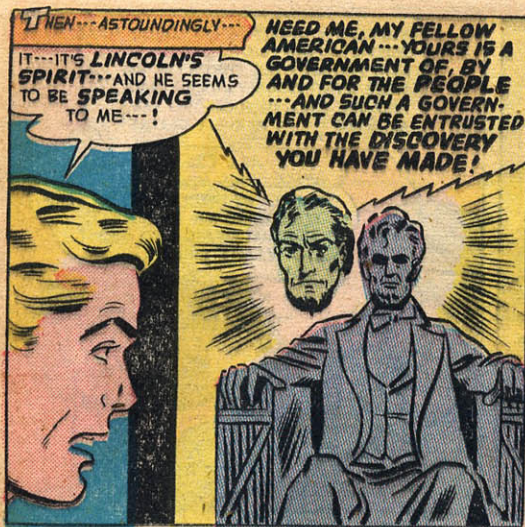
OH, GORDON... IT... IT WRECKED THAT OTHER CAR... AND NOW IT'S COMING FOR **US!**

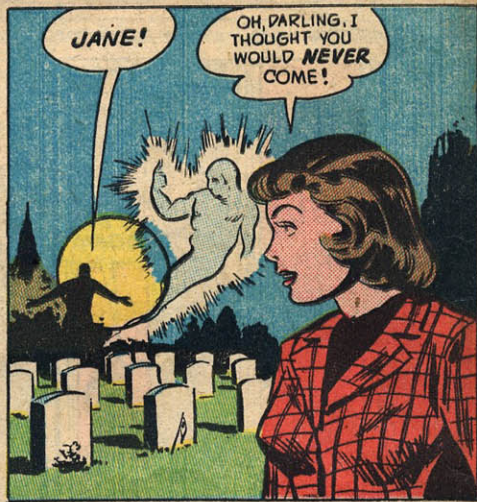
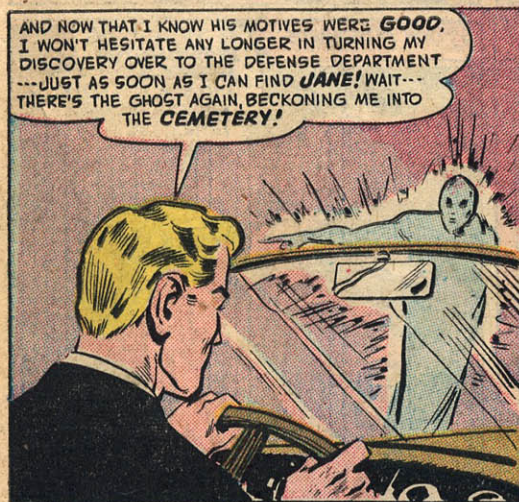
MAYBE WE CAN OUTPACE IT! **HOLD TIGHT!**





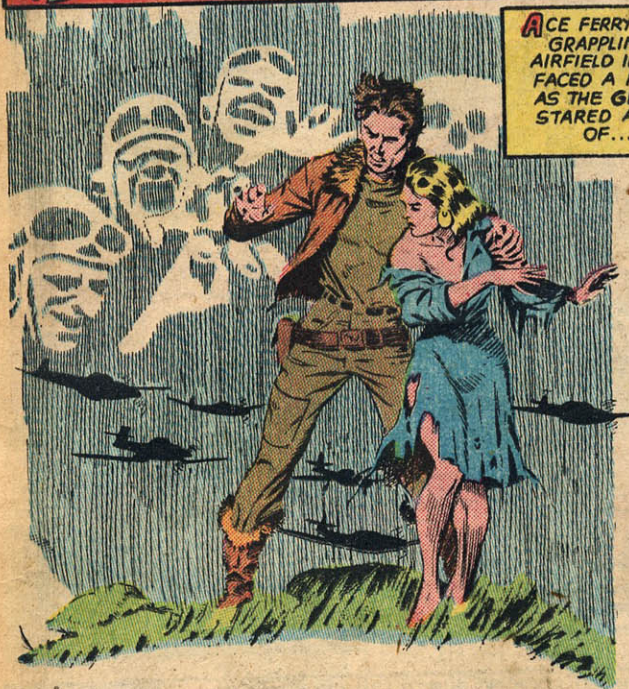






The PHANTOM FLIERS

ACE FERRY PILOT, BILL CHALMERS, WAS USED TO GRAPPLING WITH DANGER! BUT AT A HIDDEN AIRFIELD IN THE UNEXPLORED HIMALAYAS, HE FACED A NEW AND INTANGIBLE TERROR -- AS THE GHASTLY FATE OF ETERNAL DAMNATION STARED AT HIM FROM THE HAUNTED EYES OF... THE PHANTOM FLIERS!



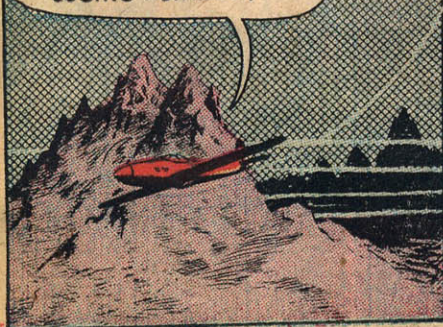
THEY SURE DID A ROTTEN JOB OF RECONDITIONING THIS PLANE! THE MANIFOLD PRESSURE IS FALLING, AND NOW THE RADIO COMPASS HAS GONE ON THE BLINK! IF THIS OVERCAST GETS ANY WORSE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO NAVIGATE!



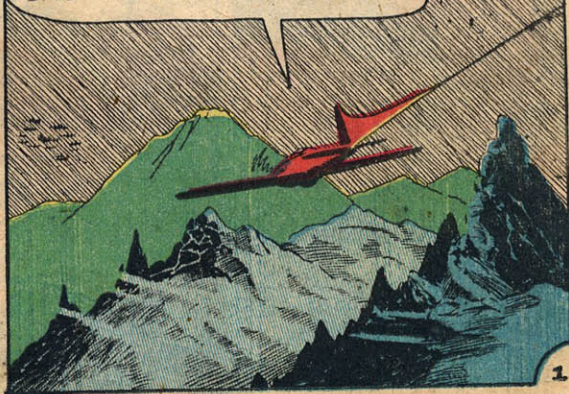
THE JOB OF FLYING A REBUILT WORLD WAR II FIGHTER PLANE FROM ASSAM, INDIA, TO KARACHI, WAS JUST A ROUTINE FLIGHT FOR BILL CHALMERS! BUT SUDDENLY, OVER THE UNEXPLORED HIMALAYAN FOOTHILLS...

One HOUR LATER...

LET'S FACE IT-- I'M LOST! I COULD BE ANYWHERE OVER A 1000 SQUARE-MILE MOUNTAIN AREA THAT'S INACCESSIBLE AND UNEXPLORED! AND NOW THE ENGINE'S MISSING... I'M LOSING ALTITUDE!



I-- I WON'T BE ABLE TO CLEAR THOSE MOUNTAINS! CAN'T THINK OF A WORSE PLACE FOR IT, BUT I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO BAIL OUT! HEY, WAIT!-- THOSE SPECKS... THEY LOOK LIKE PLANES!



AS BILL HEADS HIS CRIPPLE PLANE
TOWARDS THE STRANGE AIR FLEET...

HOLY COW! IT LOOKS LIKE SOME SORT OF
INTERNATIONAL SQUADRON, LEFT OVER
FROM THE LAST WAR! I'LL WAVE TO
THEM... TRY TO SIGNAL THAT I'M
IN TROUBLE!

THEY'RE RETURNING MY WAVE-- AND THEY DON'T
SEEM AWFULLY SURPRISED TO SEE ME! NOW
THEY'RE POINTING DOWN, LOWERING THEIR
WHEELS... THE LANDING SIGNAL! BUT
THERE COULDN'T POSSIBLY BE A FIELD
WITHIN 500 MILES OF HERE!

IT CAN'T BE... BUT IT IS! A
CONCRETE LANDING STRIP!
WELL... ANY PORT
IN A STORM!

SECONDS LATER...

AMMO! ROCKETS! WHY, IT'S
ACTUALLY AN OPERATIONAL
FIGHTER BASE! BUT WHO
ARE THEY FIGHTING? I'LL
TALK TO THESE PILOTS
AND FIND OUT!

WHAT A HARD-LOOKING BUNCH! TO RECRUIT THEM,
THEY MUST HAVE SCRAPED THE BOTTOM OF EVERY
AIR FORCE IN THE WORLD!

MY NAME
IS BILL
CHALMERS!
I'M
FROM...

I KNOW... ANOTHER
RECRUIT! NEVER MIND
WHERE YOU'RE FROM...
WE'RE NOT INTERESTED!
I'M BORTH, THE
SQUADRON LEADER!
YOU'RE ASSIGNED TO
BLACK FLIGHT!

WAIT! BORTH! YOU DON'T
UNDERSTAND! LISTEN...
SOMEBODY!

NO SPEAK
ENGLEESH!

LISTEN, BORTH, THERE'S BEEN A MISTAKE! I DON'T BELONG HERE! I--

THAT'S WHAT THEY ALL SAY, AT FIRST! NOW GET TO YOUR ASSIGNED QUARTERS! YOU'LL FLY YOUR FIRST MISSION AT DAWN TOMORROW!

GREAT SCOTT! A GIRL!-- AND SHE'S WEARING A TATTERED AMERICAN ARMY NURSE'S UNIFORM! MAYBE I CAN GET SOME SENSE OUT OF HER!

SAY, YOU LOOK LIKE AN AMERICAN! MAYBE YOU CAN TELL ME WHAT'S WITH THIS COCK-EYED SET UP!

DON'T TRY TO KID ME! YOU'RE NO DIFFERENT FROM THE REST OF THESE CREEPS! NOW GET OUT OF HERE, AND LEAVE ME ALONE!

THAT NIGHT, IN HIS QUARTERS...

THERE'S SOMETHING **UNEARTHLY** ABOUT THIS PLACE! THESE PILOTS... THEY ALL HAVE THE SAME GHASTLY, DEAD-PANDED LOOK! I'M SURE ONE IS **NAKAMOTO**, THE MOST FEARED **JAP ACE**... AND ANOTHER LOOKS LIKE **ZUKOFF**, THE NOTORIOUS RUSSIAN, BUT I THOUGHT HE WAS **DEAD**! BUT NO ONE WILL TALK TO ME-- NOT EVEN THAT NURSE! I'LL JUST HAVE TO STRING ALONG-- MAYBE ON THAT MISSION TOMORROW---

NEXT MORNING...

THEY'VE ISSUED ME ONE OF THEIR PLANES... AN OLD **MESSERSCHMIDT**... AND SHE'S **ARMED TO THE TEETH**! I WONDER WHAT OUR TARGET CAN POSSIBLY BE, IN THIS **UNINHABITED AREA**?



THIS **BARREN TERRAIN** LOOKS ALL ALIKE... BUT IF I CAN JUST GET MY BEARINGS... WH-WHY, THIS INSTRUMENT PANEL HAS NO COMPASS IN IT!



WE'VE FLOWN ONLY 10 MINUTES... THERE **CAN'T** POSSIBLY BE ANYTHING TO ATTACK OUT HERE! BUT THEY'RE PEELING OFF IN **ATTACK FORMATION**!

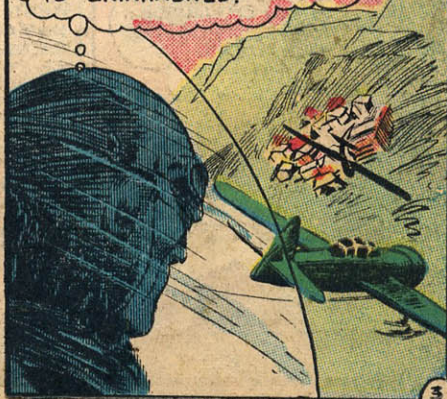
PREPARE TO ATTACK!



THEN, LIKE AN **INCREDIBLE MIRAGE**, BILL SEES ON THE **DESOLATE MOUNTAIN-SIDE**...



A TOWN! WHY... IT'S **IMPOSSIBLE**! I KNOW THIS WHOLE AREA IS **UNINHABITED**!



I CAN'T IMAGINE WHAT TOWN THIS IS... BUT IT'S A CINCH THERE AREN'T ANY MILITARY TARGETS IN SUCH A PEACEFUL-LOOKING PLACE!... WHAT THE...? THEY'RE OPENING FIRE, ANYWAY!



GREAT SCOTT! IT'S INHUMAN! THEY'RE STRAFING CIVILIANS... WOMEN AND CHILDREN! I-- I WON'T FIRE A SHOT!



As THE FIENDISH MASSACRE CONTINUES...

ROCKETS AND FIRE BOMBS! THERE WON'T BE A PERSON LEFT ALIVE! HOW CAN THEY BRING THEMSELVES TO CONTINUE THE ATTACK?--YET, THEY KEEP DIVING, AS IF DRIVEN BY SOME MYSTERIOUS **COMPULSION**! PERHAPS NOW IS MY CHANCE TO ESCAPE!



YOU KNOW YOUR ORDERS... KILL THEM ALL!

THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH THE CONTROLS... THE PLANE WON'T RESPOND WHEN I TRY TO TURN AWAY!



THEIR BRUTAL SLAUGHTER FINALLY OVER, THE PLANES HEAD BACK TO THEIR BASE...



I'LL HAVE TO RETURN WITH THEM... THERE'S NOTHING ELSE I CAN DO!

MINUTES LATER, BACK AT THE STRANGE AIR FIELD...

YE GODS, BORTH! WHAT IN-HUMAN SADISM! YOU WERE MURDERING HELPLESS CIVILIANS!

YES, AND I NOTICED THAT YOU HELD YOUR FIRE! AS PUNISHMENT, YOU'LL FLY TWO MISSIONS TOMORROW! YOU'LL LEARN TO CONFORM, OR ELSE!



WHY, YOU SADISTIC MONSTER!





HA-HA!
YOU'LL
SEE HOW
MUCH
GOOD
THAT
SORT OF
THING
THAT
DOES
YOU,
HERE!

THAT PUNCH WAS
AIMED STRAIGHT AT
HIS JAW-- BUT IT
SEEMED TO GO
RIGHT THROUGH
HIM! I DON'T
GET IT!



THAT LIVID SCAR AROUND HIS
THROAT... I'VE SEEN IT
BEFORE! BUT WHERE?

WAIT, BILL! DON'T
GO AFTER HIM! I--
I'M GOING TO TAKE
A LONG CHANCE ON
YOU-- MEET ME
BEHIND THE BAR-
RACKS...
TONIGHT!



THAT
NIGHT...

OKAY, I'M
HERE! NOW
WHAT?

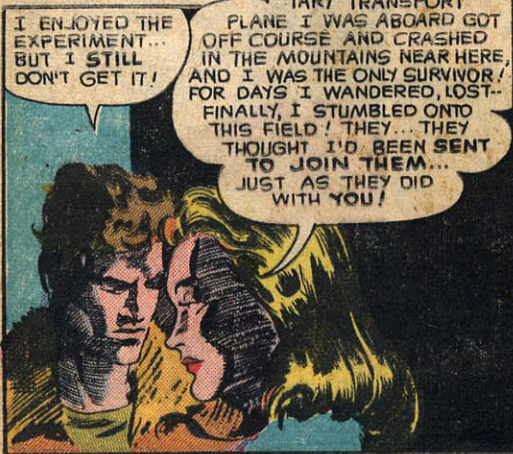


THIS!



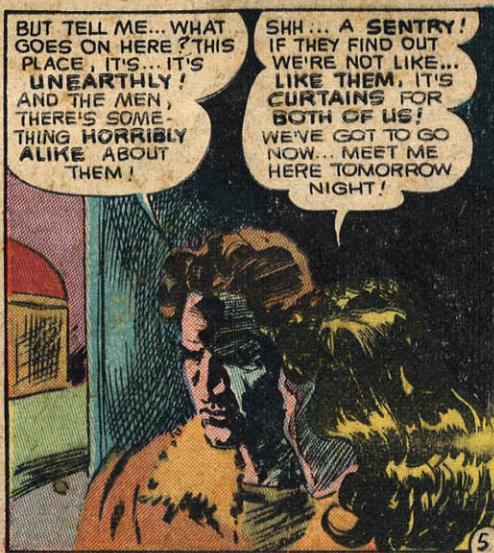
WOW! WHAT WAS
THAT ALL ABOUT?

I HAD TO DO THAT TO FIND OUT! AND
I WAS RIGHT... YOU AREN'T LIKE THE
OTHERS! YOU'RE... YOU'RE REAL!



I ENJOYED THE
EXPERIMENT...
BUT I STILL
DON'T GET IT!

I'LL EXPLAIN WHAT
I CAN! I'M NORA
BENTLEY, AN ARMY
NURSE! THE MILI-
TARY TRANSPORT
PLANE I WAS ABOARD GOT
OFF COURSE AND CRASHED
IN THE MOUNTAINS NEAR HERE,
AND I WAS THE ONLY SURVIVOR!
FOR DAYS I WANDERED, LOST--
FINALLY, I STUMBLED ONTO
THIS FIELD! THEY... THEY
THOUGHT I'D BEEN SENT
TO JOIN THEM...
JUST AS THEY DID
WITH YOU!



BUT TELL ME... WHAT
GOES ON HERE? THIS
PLACE, IT'S... IT'S
UNEARTHLY!
AND THE MEN,
THERE'S SOME-
THING HORRIBLY
ALIKE ABOUT
THEM!

SHH... A SENTRY!
IF THEY FIND OUT
WE'RE NOT LIKE...
LIKE THEM, IT'S
CURTAINS FOR
BOTH OF US!
WE'VE GOT TO GO
NOW... MEET ME
HERE TOMORROW
NIGHT!

NEXT MORNING...

I'VE GOT TO FLY WITH THESE CREEPS AGAIN-- THERE'S NO WAY OUT! NONE OF THE OTHER PILOTS SEEM VERY KEEN ON FLYING EITHER... I WONDER...

ANOTHER MISSION--NOT TORTURE! HOW LONG CAN ZIS GO ON?

YOU'RE SIGNED UP FOR THE DURATION, FOOL-- FOREVER!

AS THE FLIGHT APPROACHES ITS TARGET...

WHY, IT'S THE SAME TOWN.. EXACTLY AS IT WAS BEFORE YESTERDAY'S ATTACK! THERE'S NOT A TRACE OF DAMAGE... AND THE PEOPLE... THEY'RE ALL ALIVE AGAIN!

AND, AS THE GHASTLY SLAUGHTER OF THE DAY BEFORE IS REPEATED...

THE TOWN MUST BE SOME SORT OF MIRAGE... BUT IT'S ALL SO REAL! I'LL PRETEND TO JOIN IN, AND EMPTY MY GUNS IN THE HILLSIDE! I THINK I'M BEGINNING TO FIGURE THINGS OUT!



BACK AT THE PHANTOM AIRFIELD AGAIN...

GOOD GRIEF -- THEY FLY THAT SAME HORRIBLE MISSION OVER AND OVER... FOREVER! NOW IT ALL FITS TOGETHER... INCLUDING THAT GRUESOME SCAR OF BORTH'S! HE'S WERNER BORTH, THE NOTORIOUS LUFTWAFFE WAR-CRIMINAL AND-- IT'S INCREDIBLE-- BUT I'M POSITIVE HE WAS HANGED IN 1946!



THAT NIGHT-- AS BILL KEEPS HIS APPOINTMENT WITH NORA...

THANK HEAVENS YOU'RE HERE!

WE'RE IN TERRIBLE DANGER, NORA! I THINK BORTH SUSPECTS US... HE SAW ME EMPTYING MY GUNS ON THE MISSION THIS AFTERNOON! WE'VE GOT TO ESCAPE... TONIGHT!

WE CAN'T TRUST THE PHANTOM PLANES! WE'VE GOT TO REPAIR THE SHIP I CAME IN! TRY TO HOLD THIS FLASHLIGHT SO THAT NONE OF THOSE CREEPS WILL SPOT IT!

SO YOU FOUND OUT THEY AREN'T HUMAN, BUT HAVE YOU FIGURED OUT WHAT THIS PLACE IS?

WE'VE STUMBLED INTO AN UNEARTHLY WORLD, NORA! THIS PLACE IS A KIND OF PURGATORY-- AND THESE MEN ARE THE SADISTIC PILOTS WHO TOOK PLEASURE IN THE SLAUGHTER OF WAR, WHEN ALIVE! THEY'RE TRAPPED HERE-- SOMEWHERE BETWEEN LIFE AND DEATH-- FORCED TO LIVE OVER AND OVER THE VICIOUS PATTERN OF THEIR SINS!

I SUSPECTED SOMETHING LIKE THAT, BUT... BUT IT SEEMS UNBELIEVABLE! YOU'RE RIGHT, WE MUST ESCAPE!



HAMPERED BY DARKNESS, THE WORK GOES ON WITH INFINITE SLOWNESS! AS THE HOURS STEAL AWAY...

HURRY--IT GETTING LATE!

IT'S THE MAGNETO--IF I CAN ONLY FINISH WIRING IT!

TOO LATE, BILL! HERE THEY COME FOR THE DAYN MISSION! LET'S RUN FOR IT!

WAIT, NORA... I'VE FIXED IT! INTO THE PLANE!



I'LL TOSS OUT THIS CHUTE TO MAKE ROOM FOR BOTH OF US! HANG ON TIGHT, NORA... IT'S NOW, OR NEVER!

THE FOOLS ARE TRYING TO ESCAPE AFTER THEM! SHOOT THEM DOWN IN FLAMES!

MY COMPASS WON'T WORK IN THIS HAUNTED AREA! BUT THERE COMES THE SUN... I'LL FLY BY THAT

FASTER, BILL! THEY'RE GAINING!

WE'RE SUNK--THEY'RE OVERTAKING US! WE CAN'T OUTPACE PHANTOM PLANES! BILL, WHY ARE YOU TURNING? THEY'LL HEAD US OFF!

MAYBE NOT... IF I REMEMBER MY GEOGRAPHY! I THINK I RECOGNIZE THAT RIVER DOWN THERE!



AS BILL'S PLANE CROSSES THE RIVER...

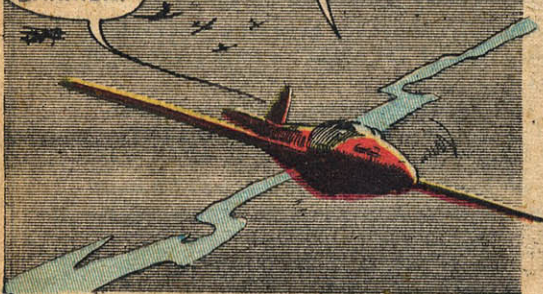
WHAT... WHAT'S HAPPENED? THEY'VE TURNED BACK... AS THOUGH THEY HIT AN INVISIBLE BARRIER!

YES, THAT RIVER SAVED OUR LIVES. NORA! IT'S THE HEADWATERS OF THE OHGLEY, THE HOLY RIVER OF INDIA! NO SPIRITS FROM THE OTHER WORLD CAN CROSS IT! WE'RE ALL RIGHT NOW!

Later...

I CAN HARDLY BELIEVE WE'RE REALLY SAFE IN KARACHI, BILL! EVERYTHING STILL SEEMS UNREAL!

ANYTIME YOU DOUBT OUR REALITY, NORA, I SEEM TO REMEMBER YOU HAD A SURE-FIRE TEST!



End

OUT of the NIGHT.. TO YOU!

GREETINGS, ALL YOU loyal fans and staunch supporters of "Out of The Night"!

It's swell to meet up with you again in the pages of this, the most *different* magazine on the newsstands. And we say *different* because that's what it's been since first it was published...and that's what it's going to remain! True, there are other publications dealing with the supernatural...many of them, indeed. Too frequently, however, they concern themselves with mere horror...and that, most distinctly, is not the purpose of "Out of The Night". What we are striving to bring you are thrilling and imaginative stories from out of the realm beyond life itself...stories which fascinate, challenge and entertain. In each and every case, such stories are the products of tried and able writers, brought into gripping life through the efforts of skilled illustrators. What emerges are pulsing picture stories that live up to the highest editorial standards of exciting entertainment, rather than senseless terror.

This is what you readers want, and we're going to continue to bring it to you.

You've made your preferences known through countless letters to us, and we're abiding by your tastes. As a matter of fact, the issue which you're now reading is a clear reflection of your expressed desires...and we think you'll like it! Where else have you ever read such a story as "The Weird Window"? It's straight out of the teeming *Unknown* itself, its eerie fascination stealing spookily into the innermost recesses of your mind. And for a blazingly new experience in supernatural reading, "The Unknown Ghost" will linger long in your memory. Then, there's "The Phantom Fliers", guaranteed for gasps...and "The Black Beyond", a thriller which is *really* out of this world! They're all there for top thrills and sparkling entertainment...a super-issue if you've ever seen one!

We'd like to know how you react to this all-thrill number, and invite you to write us. Address your letter to The Editor, "Out of The Night", 45 West 45th Street, New York 19, N. Y. We'll print your letter if we have space...meanwhile, let's see what some of our other readers are saying!

"Dear Editor:-

I've just finished reading 'Out of The Night' and want to congratulate you on a fine piece of reading material. I believe that anyone who's interested in the supernatural...and who isn't...will find your magazine the top of the list for the finest of comics on such matter. So get your writers busy and let's have more of these wonderful and spine-tingling stories. Don't change them a bit...they're swell just as they are!

--M. L. P., Rio Linda, Calif."

"Dear Editor:-

My husband and I like supernatural stories tremendously...but up to now, we've never found any that are truly worthwhile. Most have been merely senseless and fantastic. But now we've discovered 'Out of The Night', a truly great magazine. We're recommending it to everyone!

--Mrs. E. Wymer, Shawnee, Kansas."

"Dear Editor:-

I'm very much interested in 'Out of The Night', as eerie and weird a magazine as I've ever read. All in all, it's the best I've ever seen, so keep up the fine work!

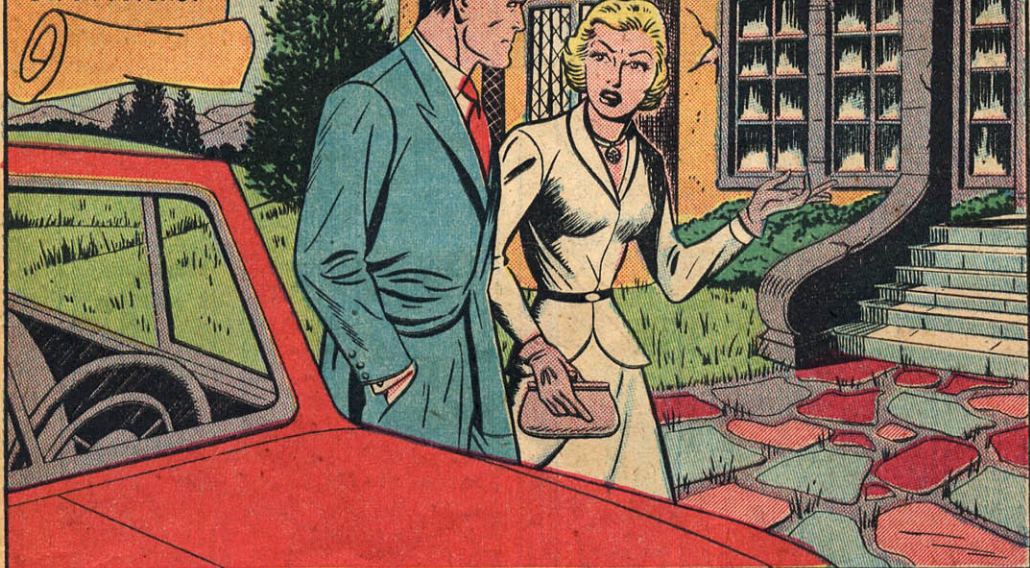
--J. Glassner, Brooklyn, N. Y."

The BLACK BEYOND

SINCE TIME BEGAN, THE WORLD HAS KNOWN MANY FORMS OF EVIL...AND MUCH OF IT HAS BRISTLED FORTH HAND IN HAND WITH HORROR! BUT NOTHING CAN MATCH THE EVIL HARBORED BY A FIEND RELEASED BY DEATH...AND USED AS A CURSE THAT LEADS TO THE BLACK BEYOND!

WISH YOU, HADN'T INSISTED UPON COMING TO CYPRESS HALL WITH ME TONIGHT, MARGE... BUT HERE IT IS!

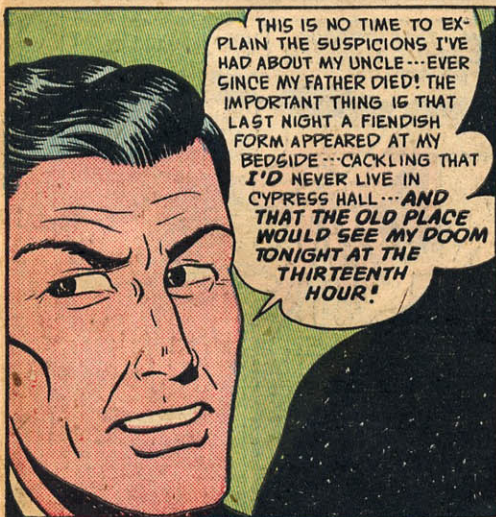
BRIAN...WHAT'S BEHIND THIS MYSTERIOUS VISIT AT NEARLY ONE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING? I KNOW THAT YOUR UNCLE OWNS THIS PLACE...AND THAT YOU NEVER SEE HIM BECAUSE OF A DISLIKE THAT GOES BACK TO YOUR CHILDHOOD! WHAT MADE YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND NOW?



THIS IS NO TIME TO EXPLAIN THE SUSPICIONS I'VE HAD ABOUT MY UNCLE...EVER SINCE MY FATHER DIED! THE IMPORTANT THING IS THAT LAST NIGHT A FIENDISH FORM APPEARED AT MY BEDSIDE...CACKLING THAT I'D NEVER LIVE IN CYPRESS HALL...AND THAT THE OLD PLACE WOULD SEE MY DOOM TONIGHT AT THE THIRTEENTH HOUR!

THAT'S ONE O'CLOCK...JUST A FEW MINUTES FROM **NOW!** HEAVENS, BRIAN...WHY DIDN'T YOU STAY AWAY FROM HERE?

I'VE NEVER BELIEVED IN GHOSTS, HONEY...BUT I CAN'T IGNORE A WARNING LIKE **THAT!** MY FATHER INHERITED CYPRESS HALL, BUT HE NEVER LIVED IN IT, EITHER...HE DIED SUDDENLY WHEN I WAS A BOY...AND I'VE ALWAYS SUSPECTED MY UNCLE KILLED HIM! THAT'S WHY I'M MAKING MY FIRST VISIT TONIGHT...FOR A SHOWDOWN!





STRANGE WE COULDN'T
ROUSE ANYONE! MY
UNCLE **MUST** BE HERE
---OR THE DOOR
WOULD'VE BEEN
LOCKED!

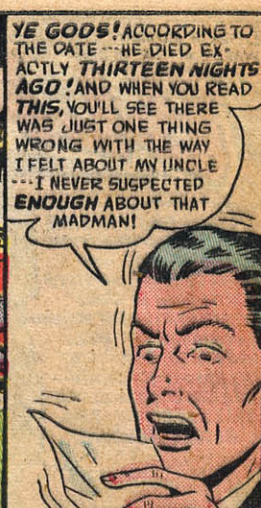
FOR GOODNESS
SAKE, BRIAN...
SWITCH ON THE
LIGHTS! THERE'S
AN ATMOSPHERE TO
THIS PLACE THAT
MAKES ME
SHUDDER!



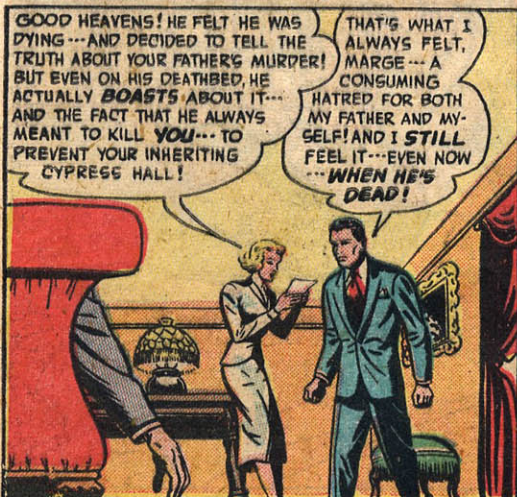
A MOMENT LATER...IN A CHAMBER
BROODING OVER ITS MUSTY SECRETS...

OHH! BRIAN
---IT'S A
CORPSE!

YEAH---MY UNCLE'S!
I'M TOO LATE FOR
THAT SHOWDOWN
---BUT I WONDER
WHAT HE WAS WRIT-
ING WHEN HE
DIED?



YE GODS! ACCORDING TO
THE DATE...HE DIED EX-
ACTLY **THIRTEEN NIGHTS**
AGO! AND WHEN YOU READ
THIS, YOU'LL SEE THERE
WAS JUST ONE THING
WRONG WITH THE WAY
I FELT ABOUT MY UNCLE
---I NEVER SUSPECTED
ENOUGH ABOUT THAT
MADMAN!



GOOD HEAVENS! HE FELT HE WAS
DYING---AND DECIDED TO TELL THE
TRUTH ABOUT YOUR FATHER'S MURDER!
BUT EVEN ON HIS DEATHBED, HE
ACTUALLY **BOASTS** ABOUT IT...
AND THE FACT THAT HE ALWAYS
MEANT TO KILL **YOU**... TO
PREVENT YOUR INHERITING
CYPRESS HALL!

THAT'S WHAT I
ALWAYS FELT,
MARGE---A
CONSUMING
HATRED FOR BOTH
MY FATHER AND MY-
SELF! AND I **STILL**
FEEL IT---EVEN NOW
---WHEN HE'S
DEAD!



A MUFFLED ECHO CREEPS THROUGH THE SILENT
HOUSE---

LISTEN! THE HALL CLOCK'S
STRIKING ONE---**THE THIRTEENTH**
HOUR! ACCORDING TO THAT FIEND
YOU SAW---**SOMETHING'S**
BOUND TO HAPPEN!

MAYBE IT WAS
RIGHT---**THE**
BODY'S GIV-
ING OFF A
WEIRD GLOW!
QUICK---GET
BEHIND THAT
CABINET!



A INSTANT LATER---REARING FROM THE INERT
FIGURE LIKE A BLOSSOM OF HORROR---

GREAT
GUNS...
LOOK!



BRIAN---THAT HIDEOUS
THING IS YOUR UNCLE'S
'SPIRIT!'

NOT ONLY THAT---**BUT**
IT'S THE VERY CREA-
TURE I SAW LAST
NIGHT! IT'S LOOKING
AROUND---AS IF IT'S
WAITING FOR
SOMETHING!

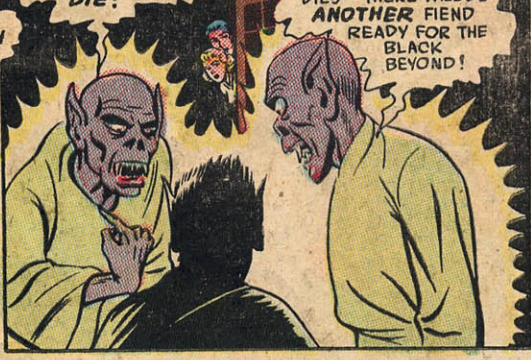
FOR A MOMENT, TWO SICKLY SPLITCHES OF LIGHT WAVER IN THE GLOOM---AND THEN---

WE HAVE COME TO ESCORT YOU TO THE NETHER WORLD OF EVIL---**THE BLACK BEYOND!**

AHH! YOU HAVE KEPT THE PROMISE YOU MADE THE NIGHT I DREW MY LAST GASP---THAT YOU WOULD RETURN FOR ME THIRTEEN NIGHTS LATER---**AT THE THIRTEENTH HOUR!**

I WAS EVIL BEYOND RECKONING WHILE I LIVED---AND NOW THAT I HAVE BEEN CHOSEN FOR THE BLACK BEYOND---**IT IS AN EVIL THAT WILL NEVER DIE!**

YOU HOLD THE FATE OF A HUMAN IN YOUR CLAWED HANDS! WHOEVER YOU CHOOSE WILL BE FORCED TO DO EVIL FOR THE REST OF HIS LIFE---SO THAT WHEN HE DIES---THERE WILL BE **ANOTHER FIEND** READY FOR THE BLACK BEYOND!



BY THE POWERS OF DARKNESS---I HAVE MADE MY CHOICE! LET EVIL HANG LIKE A SHROUD OF DOOM ON BRIAN FLETCHER---LET CRIME AND VIOLENCE BE ON HIS HEAD WHEREVER HE TURNS---UNTIL WE MEET IN THE **BLACK BEYOND!**



AS AN EERIE SHAFT OF LIGHT APPEARS---LIKE THE PORTAL OF ANOTHER WORLD---

GOOD LORD... THEY'RE DISAPPEARING!

BRIAN---WAIT! FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE---DON'T TRY TO FOLLOW THEM!



BRIAN---WHAT'LL WE DO? IT WAS BAD ENOUGH WHEN YOU FELT YOUR DEAD UNCLE'S HATRED WAS STILL ACTIVE---BUT I NEVER SUSPECTED IT WOULD BE SOMETHING LIKE **THIS**---A CURSE THAT WILL BLIGHT THE REST OF YOUR LIFE!

DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN, HONEY! THAT FIEND MAY WANT TO MARK ME FOR EVIL---BUT AS LONG AS I'VE GOT WILL POWER AND A CONSCIENCE---**IT ISN'T GOING TO WORK!**



NEXT DAY---

I CERTAINLY FEEL BETTER ABOUT LAST NIGHT, DARLING---NOW THAT THERE'S SUNLIGHT---AND BIRDS SINGING ALL AROUND US!

WATCH---I'LL BET I CAN HIT **THAT** ONE!



WHACK!

BRIAN---DON'T!



YOU'VE KILLED IT, BRIAN---AND I'VE NEVER KNOWN YOU TO BE CRUEL BEFORE! WHY DID YOU DO IT?

MY GOSH, MARGE---I DON'T KNOW! IT WAS ALMOST AUTOMATIC---**SOME-THING I COULDN'T CHECK!**



BRIAN...REMEMBER WHAT YOU SAID?
THAT YOU'D USE ALL THE WILL POWER
YOU COULD COMMAND...**THAT YOU
WOULDN'T GIVE IN?**

I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING
...THAT **THIS** IS THE BEGINNING!
BUT THE CURSE OF THE BLACK
BEYOND HAD NOTHING TO DO
WITH IT, MARGE...SO FOR
PETE'S SAKE...**DON'T
PUT IDEAS INTO MY
HEAD!**



BUT THE IDEA WAS ALREADY THERE...
GNAWING AT BRIAN'S SOUL! THAT NIGHT...
IN THE DEPTHS OF TORMENT...

WHY CAN'T I GET VIOLENCE
AND EVIL OFF MY MIND? I
CAN'T SLEEP...I CAN'T
THINK...**BECAUSE
MY MIND'S CLOTTED
WITH THE HORROR
OF WHAT I'LL
DO NEXT!**



NO...NO...I'M NOT RE-
SIGNING MYSELF TO IT!
I DON'T CARE IF EVERY
SKULKING FIEND IN THE
BLACK BEYOND IS
AGAINST ME...I'M
GOING TO FIGHT
EVERY MAD IMPULSE
THEY CAN CONTRIVE
...AND DESTROY
THE CURSE!



SUDDENLY...IN A GROWING SPLITCH AGAINST THE DARK-
NESS...

**THE FIEND! IT MUST
HAVE SENSED MY DEFIANCE
...IT'S RETURNING FROM
THE WORLD OF DOOM!**

HA
HA
HA!



AS THE MONSTROUS FIGURE TAKES SHAPE...

I'LL TELL YOU HOW TO DESTROY THE CURSE...
AND LET YOU WRITHE WHEN YOU REALIZE WHAT
YOUR CHANCES ARE! IT MEANS DESTROYING
ME...AND **THAT** CAN HAPPEN **ONLY** IN THE
BLACK BEYOND! WHAT CHANCE HAS A **HUMAN**
TO REACH THE NETHER WORLD OF EVIL...WHEN
THE GUIDING FIENDS COME ONLY FOR THE
DEAD?



BEFORE YOU VANISH AGAIN,
CREEP...**REMEMBER
THIS!** I'M GOING TO
REACH THE BLACK BEYOND
AND SNUFF OUT YOUR FOUL
EXISTENCE...**IF I HAVE
TO KILL MYSELF TO
DO IT!**

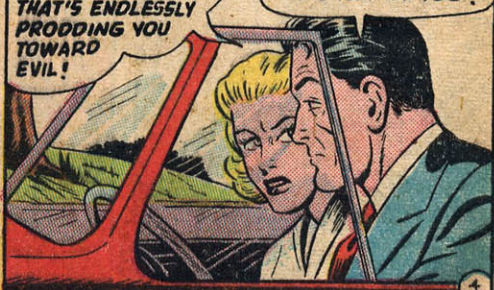
**NEVER! YOU'RE FATED
TO LIVE** UNTIL YOU'VE
PLUMBED THE UTTER
DEPTHS OF EVIL...AND
WHEN YOU FINALLY REACH
THE BLACK BEYOND...
**YOU'LL BE A CREA-
TURE LIKE ME!**

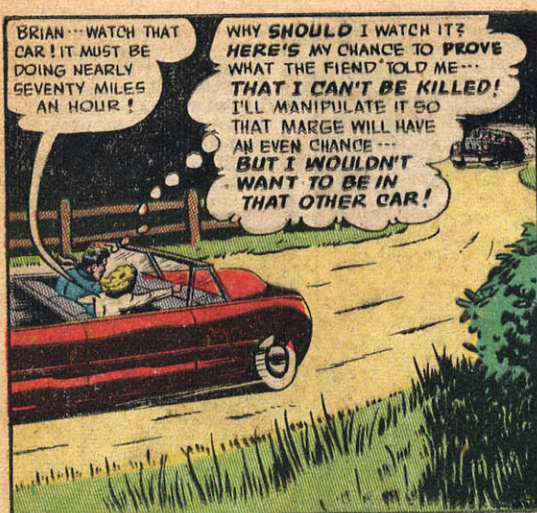


SEVERAL NIGHTS LATER...

DARLING...DON'T TRY TO
HIDE THE REASON FOR YOUR
RESTLESSNESS FROM ME! I
KNOW YOU'RE FIGHTING THE
RISING URGE WITHIN YOU...
**THE DARK FORCE
THAT'S ENDLESSLY
PRODDING YOU
TOWARD
EVIL!**

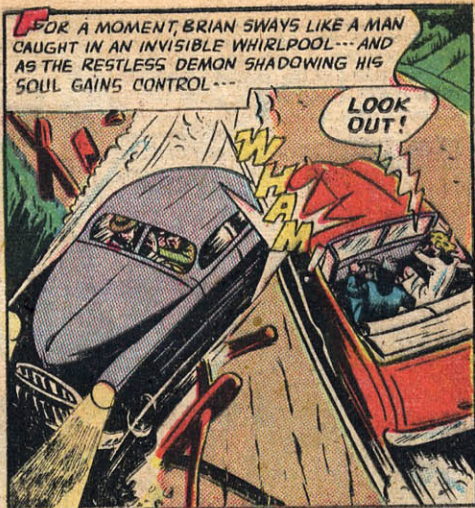
WISH YOU HADN'T COME
WITH ME...WHEN I REAL-
IZE THAT HOUR BY HOUR
...**I'M WEAKENING!**
IT KEEPS SEETHING...
AND SUPPOSE IT BURSTS
FORTH IN BLIND FURY...
AND I TURN ON YOU?





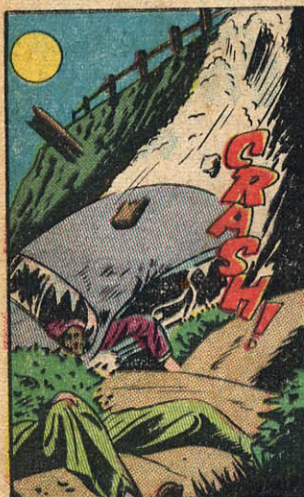
BRIAN...WATCH THAT CAR! IT MUST BE DOING NEARLY SEVENTY MILES AN HOUR!

WHY SHOULD I WATCH IT? HERE'S MY CHANCE TO PROVE WHAT THE FIEND TOLD ME... THAT I CAN'T BE KILLED! I'LL MANIPULATE IT SO THAT MARGE WILL HAVE AN EVEN CHANCE... BUT I WOULDN'T WANT TO BE IN THAT OTHER CAR!



FOR A MOMENT, BRIAN SWAYS LIKE A MAN CAUGHT IN AN INVISIBLE WHIRLPOOL...AND AS THE RESTLESS DEMON SHADOWING HIS SOUL GAINS CONTROL...

LOOK OUT!



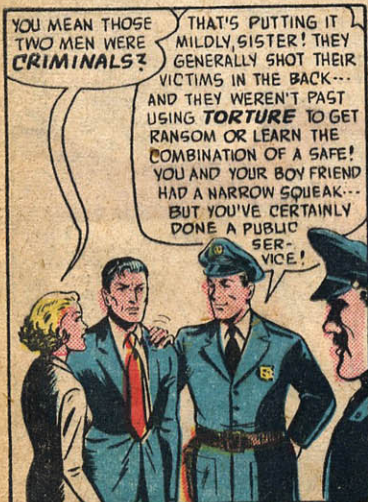
ONLY ONE THING COULD JOLT ME OUT OF THAT SATANIC MOOD THAT SEIZED ME...THE TERRIBLE REALIZATION THAT IT'S FINALLY HAPPENED...I'VE KILLED SOMEONE!

BRIAN...THERE'S A POLICE CAR! WONDER WHAT BROUGHT IT HERE SO SOON?



WELL...GUESS THIS PROVES WE WERE TRAILING THE RIGHT CAR, SARGE!

PRETTY MESSY WINDUP, EVEN FOR STEVE COLEMAN AND BUFFY JOHNSON...TWO OF THE DEADLIEST GUNMEN IN THE COUNTRY!



YOU MEAN THOSE TWO MEN WERE CRIMINALS?

THAT'S PUTTING IT MILDLY, SISTER! THEY GENERALLY SHOT THEIR VICTIMS IN THE BACK... AND THEY WEREN'T PAST USING TORTURE TO GET RANSOM OR LEARN THE COMBINATION OF A SAFE! YOU AND YOUR BOY FRIEND HAD A NARROW SQUEAK... BUT YOU'VE CERTAINLY DONE A PUBLIC SERVICE!



SOON AFTERWARD... I KNOW IT SOUNDS GOOD...BUT IT WAS JUST SHEER ACCIDENT THAT I DIDN'T CAUSE THE DEATH OF A HARMLESS CITIZEN...INSTEAD OF A PAIR OF INHUMAN RATS LIKE THOSE!

BUT BRIAN... DON'T YOU REALIZE WHAT IT MEANS... KNOWING THAT TWO SINISTER CHARACTERS DIED AT THIS VERY SPOT?



YOU TOLD ME THAT NO HUMAN CAN REACH THE BLACK BEYOND...BECAUSE THE FIENDS COME ONLY TO ESCORT THE EVIL DEAD! THAT MEANS THEY'LL BE HERE, BRIAN--AT THE THIRTEENTH HOUR, THIRTEEN NIGHTS FROM NOW...AND THIS TIME WE'LL BE ABLE TO FOLLOW THEM!

IT WON'T WORK, MARGE! WITH MY UNCONSCIOUS ATTRACTION FOR EVIL GETTING WORSE AND WORSE...HOW CAN I WAIT THIRTEEN DAYS? BY THAT TIME I'LL BE **DANGEROUS**... A MANIAC AROUND WHOM NO ONE WILL BE SAFE!

HEAVENS...THIS FENDER'S PRESSED AGAINST THE TIRE! NO USE **YOUR** TRYING TO STRAIGHTEN IT...JUST HAND ME THE WRENCH IN THE GLOVE COMPARTMENT!

FOR AN INSTANT, MARGE HESITATES...THEN, WITH A DESPERATE GASP...

DARLING...I'M SORRY! BUT I KNEW YOU CAN'T BE **KILLED**...AND THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP YOU FROM EVIL DURING THE NEXT THIRTEEN DAYS IS TO HAVE YOU **UNCONSCIOUS**! YOU'RE GOING TO BE IN A HOSPITAL...UNDER A **STRONG SEDATIVE**!

THIRTEEN DAYS LATER...

YOU'RE STILL PRETTY UNSTEADY, BRIAN! MAYBE IT'D BE BEST IF WE FORGOT THE IDEA... RATHER THAN RUN ANY RISKS **NOW**!

THAT'LL MEAN A FAR MORE TERRIBLE RISK, MARGE... WAITING FOR THE CURSE TO SWEEP ME INTO A NEW OUT-BREAK OF VIOLENCE! THERE'S NO CHOICE...**WE'VE GOT TO REACH THE SCENE OF THAT ACCIDENT BY ONE O'CLOCK!**

HOSPITAL

THAT NIGHT...WITH THE MOON HUDDLED HIGH IN THE CLOUD-FLECKED SKY...

I'M SURE THE SPIRITS OF THOSE TWO CRIMINALS WILL TURN INTO FIENDS, BRIAN! I CAN GENSE SOMETHING OMINOUS IN THIS SPOT...**AS IF SOMETHING WERE GOING TO HAPPEN!**

HOW CAN I TELL HER THAT THE DANGER SHE FEELS IS DUE TO **ME**...NOW THAT THE EFFECTS OF THE DRUG ARE WEARING OFF? I'VE GOT TO HOLD OUT... BECAUSE IF THE CURSE GETS THE BETTER OF ME **NOW**...
MY LAST HOPE WILL BE GONE!

THEN...WITH BRIAN'S HOARSE BREATHING MARKING EACH WAITING MOMENT...

EVEN IF THE FIENDS DON'T DETECT US...HEAVEN KNOWS WHAT WE'LL BE UP AGAINST WHEN WE REACH THE BLACK BEYOND! BUT I'M NOT GOING TO LET MYSELF BE AFRAID, DARLING...**AS LONG AS I'M WITH YOU!**

SHE DOESN'T SUSPECT...SHE FEELS SAFE...BECAUSE SHE LOVES ME! BUT LOVE IS FOR **HUMANS**... NOT FOR A CREATURE LIKE **ME**... SINGLED OUT FOR THE KIND OF TERROR THAT WILL SHRIVEL MY SOUL!

MARGE...THIS IS THE MOMENT! NOTHING CAN CHECK IT... NOW!

DARLING...YOU'RE RIGHT! IT'S EXACTLY ONE O'CLOCK...AND THERE'S A STRANGE GLOW TAKING SHAPE NEAR THAT SHATTERED FENCE!

THEN...SCUTTLING UP FROM THE WRECKED CAR...

DEMONS OF THE BLACK BEYOND...WE ARE READY TO JOIN YOU!



GODD LORD...I CAN'T LET MYSELF SINK DEEPER AND DEEPER INTO EVIL...UNTIL I LOOK LIKE THAT! EVERY SECOND I SPEND FIGHTING OFF THE CURSE IS LIKE A CENTURY OF TORMENT...BUT I'M GOING TO KEEP A GRIP ON MYSELF UNTIL WE REACH THE BLACK BEYOND!



BRIAN...THE FIENDS HAVE SPOTTED SOMETHING! IT'S A GLOW PROBING INTO THE DARKNESS...AND I CAN SEE TWO FIGURES TAKING SHAPE!

OUT OF THE UNHOLY BYWAY LEADING TO THE WORLD OF EVIL...

AT THE THIRTEENTH HOUR OF THE THIRTEENTH NIGHT, WE COME TO GUIDE YOU THROUGH THE SHAFT OF LIGHT!

THAT'S OUR CUE, MARGE! IF WE'RE EVER GOING TO REACH THE BLACK BEYOND...IT'LL HAVE TO BE NOW!



ON THE NEXT SECOND...TIME AND REALITY VANISH IN A DIZZY SWIRL!

WE'RE BEING SWEEPED ALONG WITH THE FIENDS...BUT HOW WILL WE EVER GET BACK?

THAT'S GOING TO DEPEND ON ONE THING...WHETHER I CAN FIND THE DEMON THAT CURSED ME!



THE BLACK BEYOND! HERE WAS A REALM NO HUMANS HAD REACHED BEFORE...HIDDEN BEHIND THE SECRET FRONTIERS OF TERROR!

THERE MUST BE THOUSANDS OF THOSE CREATURES, BRIAN! ONE OF THEM IS THE FIEND THAT TOOK OVER YOUR UNCLE'S SOUL...BUT NOW CAN WE TELL WHICH ON IT IS?



AS THE MONSTROUS FIGURES SWIRL PAST BELOW...SWAYING IN ONE VAST FERMENT OF EVIL...

SOMEHOW I THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE A WAY TO SINGLE OUT THE FIEND I'M AFTER...BUT IT'S HOPELESS! I THOUGHT IT WAS HIDEOUS ENOUGH FOR ME TO BE IN THE CLUTCH OF THE BLACK BEYOND...BUT NOW IT HAS TRAPPED US BOTH!

LOOK, BRIAN...ONE OF THE FIENDS HAS DRAWN APART FROM THE OTHERS! IT'S GLANCING AROUND...AS IF IT'S PUZZLED...OR SUSPICIOUS!



GLINTING, THE INHUMAN EYES SCAN THE MURKY CRAGS...AND THEN...

I SENSED DANGER IN THE BLACK BEYOND...I FELT A GAZE THAT IS NOT EVIL UPON ME! THERE THEY ARE...WATCHING...PLOTTING OUR DOOM!



THERE CAN BE ONLY ONE FATE FOR HUMANS WHO ENTER THE BLACK BEYOND...A TERRIBLE DEATH FOR THEIR BODIES...AND ETERNAL PERDITION FOR THEIR SOULS!

I CAN GUESS WHY YOU DETECTED US, CREEP! YOU'RE THE DEMON SPAWNED BY MY UNCLE'S HATRED AND EVIL...THE THING I MUST DESTROY BEFORE THE CURSE IS LIFTED!



WITH THE GRISLY STRENGTH OF A BEING BEYOND LIFE...

YOU MIGHT HAVE DESTROYED ME...DAYS AGO! BUT YOU HAVE BEEN WEAKENED BY EVIL...SEEPING LIKE POISON THROUGH YOUR BODY! THESE CLAWS WILL REND YOU APART...AND THEN THE GIRL WILL KNOW THE HORROR OF DEATH IN THE BLACK BEYOND!



IT'S NO USE! EVIL BECAME THE BIGGEST THING IN MY LIFE ---AND NOW I CAN'T FIGHT IT OFF!

IT ISN'T TRUE, BRIAN! WEREN'T WE TOGETHER ALL THIS WHILE...DIDN'T OUR LOVE PROVE IT COULD WITHSTAND THE CURSE? YOU'VE GOT TO OVERCOME THAT THING...BEFORE THE OTHERS REACH US!



THEN...WITH THE DESPERATION OF A SOUL FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL...



LATER...AT CYPRESS HALL...

EVEN THIS OLD HOUSE HAS BEEN FREED FROM THE ATMOSPHERE OF EVIL THAT CLUNG TO IT. BRIAN! NOW IT ALMOST SEEMS TO BE WAITING FOR THE PEACE AND HAPPINESS IT LACKED ALL THESE YEARS!

WE'RE GOING TO PROVIDE THAT, HONEY...SOON AS WE'RE MARRIED! CYPRESS HALL WILL BE OUR HOME...AND YOU CAN BE PRETTY SURE IT WON'T BE HAUNTED BY THE GHOST OF THE THING THAT DIED IN THE BLACK BEYOND!



AAAGH! LOOK! A FIEND HAS BEEN DESTROYED...IN THE HEART OF THE BLACK BEYOND!

HIS CURSE WILL DIE WITH HIM...HIS VICTIM WILL ESCAPE FROM THE SHADOW OF EVIL!



AS THE FIENDS DRAW BACK...REPELLED BY A PRESENCE THAT HAS MASTERED EVIL...

GOOD HEAVENS...THERE'S THE SNAFT OF LIGHT AGAIN!

YEP! THIS TIME IT'S TAKING US BACK TO WHERE WE BELONG...THE WORLD OF THE LIVING!



THE END!

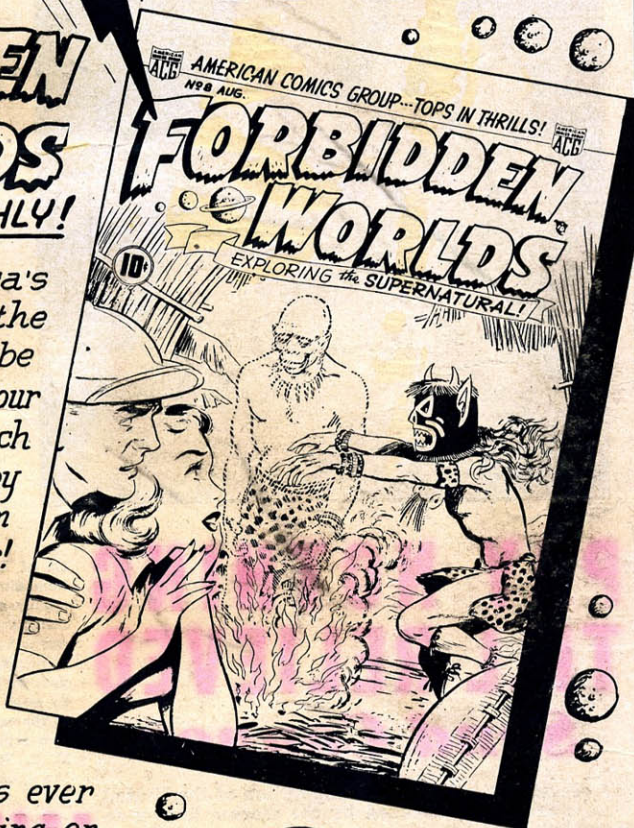
FLASH!

*You asked
for it...*

HERE IT IS!

FORBIDDEN WORLDS *Now* APPEARS MONTHLY!

That's right...America's great magazine of the Supernatural can now be bought **EACH MONTH** at your favorite newsstand! Which means that you can enjoy twice as many thrills from the nation's favorite thriller! You'll gasp at zombies, ghosts, werewolves, vampires...twice as much as ever before! Explore the eerie Supernatural in the greatest, most challenging stories ever written! For spine-tingling entertainment that's tops, read

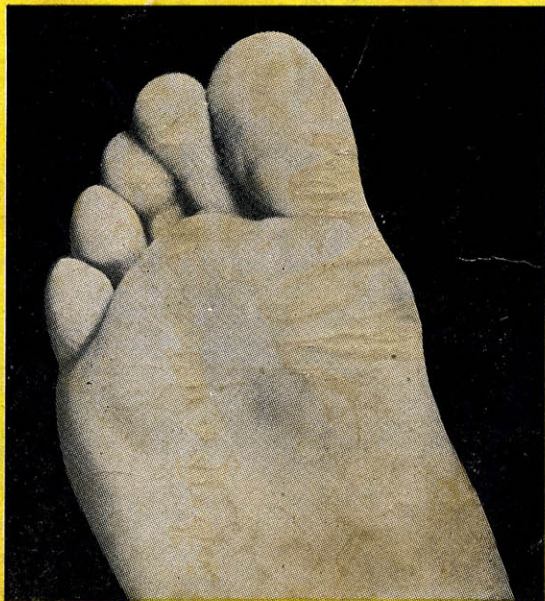


FORBIDDEN WORLDS

1/16 **MIRACLE
MONTHLY
MAGAZINE**

FOOT ITCH

ATHLETE'S FOOT



PAY NOTHING TILL RELIEVED *Send Coupon*

At least 50% of the adult population of the United States are being attacked by the disease known as Athlete's Foot.

Usually the disease starts between the toes. Little watery blisters form, and the skin cracks and peels. After a while, the itching becomes intense, and you feel as though you would like to scratch off all the skin.

BEWARE OF IT SPREADING

Often the disease travels all over the bottom of the feet. The soles of your feet become red and swollen. The skin also cracks and peels, and the itching becomes worse and worse.

Get relief from this disease as quickly as possible, because it is both contagious and infectious, and it may go to your hands or even to the under arm or crotch of the legs.

DISEASE OFTEN MISUNDERSTOOD

The cause of the disease is not a germ as so many people think, but a vegetable growth that becomes lodged in and immediately beneath the outer tissue of the skin.

To obtain relief the medicine to be used should first, gently remove the horny outer layer of skin and kill the vegetable growth.

This growth is so hard to kill that a test shows it takes 15 minutes of boiling to destroy it; however, laboratory tests also show that H. F. will kill it upon contact in 15 seconds.

DOUBLE ACTION NEEDED

Recently H. F. was developed solely for the purpose of relieving Athlete's Foot. It gently removes the horny outer layer of the skin, killing the vegetable growth, in and immediately under the skin, upon contact. Both actions are necessary for prompt relief.

H. F. is a liquid that doesn't stain. You just paint the infected parts nightly before going to bed. Often the terrible itching is relieved at once.

H. F. SENT ON FREE TRIAL

Sign and mail the coupon, and a bottle of H. F. will be mailed you immediately. Don't send any money and don't pay the postman any money; don't pay anything any time unless H. F. is helping you. If it does help you, we know you will be glad to send us \$1 for the bottle at the end of ten days. That's how much faith we have in H. F. Read, sign and mail the coupon today.



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Please send me immediately a bottle of H. F. for foot trouble as described above. I agree to use it according to directions. If at the end of 10 days my feet are getting better, I will send you \$1. If I am not entirely satisfied, I will return the unused portion of the bottle to you within 15 days from the time I receive it.

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